

5-23-1858

## Letter from Anna Clemson to Floride Clemson about Patrick Calhoun, 1858 May 23

Anna Marie Calhoun Clemson

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The Home May 23<sup>d</sup> 1858  
CUCL 58 05 23 A  
1626

dear other that  
My grand  
occasionally  
all and in  
love.  
You must  
know other  
price 6.  
I have  
My darling daughter,  
I will begin  
by telling you, as I know you are  
anxious, about your uncle P. We  
received letters, both from your grand  
mother & Mr. Gourdin, the first of  
the week, saying he had been too  
weak to be moved on Monday, as  
they had hoped, & to the said, in al-  
most the same words, they did not  
think he would ever leave Charle-  
ton, but yesterday I got a letter from  
your grandmother, saying a  
most surprising change had  
taken place in the last twenty four  
hours, that his cough was better,  
he had eaten with relish, & was  
then reading the papers, & ordering  
some thing he fancied to eat!!  
Whether this is one of the changes  
of this deceitful disease, or a com-  
mencement of improvement, re-  
mains to be seen. It is so sudden  
it alarms me, but I hope I may be  
mistaken in my fears. They were making



preparations to move him on a  
Spring bed to Sumnerville,  $1\frac{1}{2}$   
hours on the rail road, from  
Charleston, to remain there till  
he could go to Pendleton. If  
Giddings was to go that far with him.  
If he can only get away from Charle-  
ston, & survive the journey, I shall have  
hopes we may keep him a little  
longer with us. Your granddaughters  
say they are overwhelmed with  
kindness, & offers of services, carriage  
& dainties of all kinds are poured  
in. The says she never knew before  
how much our family was apprecia-  
ted. This is very gratifying to me,  
not from vanity, but because it  
proves my dear father was known  
& loved, by those in whose service  
he lost his life. Your grandmother  
was quite well again.

We are all quite well, tho' the weather  
is unseasonably cold, & we might  
expect colder. We have on all our  
winter clothing have almost constant  
fires, & there has not been two  
days when we could sit all day  
in the piazza. The country however  
from the constant rains looks



beautifully, & every thing is growing well.

Yesterday, for the first time in ten days, we went into Washington, & I paid several visits. I have not felt equal to doing so, for some time, in the suspense about your dear uncle.

Your grandmother says within understood, from a gentleman of California, that your uncle James was to leave, in the next steamer, for these parts. I do hope he may come - all these losses, & illnesses, in one family seem to draw us nearer together, & make us more anxious about the survivors, & I want to see how he seems in the alt. I begin to be uneasy about the little hacking cough he has had all his life. Mr. Brown, (the sculptor) is spending a week with us. We like him very much. He is going to model a statue for the statue of your grandfather, in the new farm house - don't you wish you were here to see him at work? I wish you were, & look forward with delight to



The prospect of soon seeing you we shall be pleased to have Kate & Mattie, come with you. I fear they will not, however, find it very amusing, as the beams are, you know, very scarce in these parts. We will do however our best to make their time pass agreeably.

You say, in your letter, you don't like Dr. Pittman, "because he is too fat" now ain't you ashamed with such a fat mother of your own to give that, as a reason for disliking a person? Take care you are not fat yourself one of these days, Miss Fastidious. Give my love & best wishes to Mary Pittman, & if you in Mrs. Weeks & Miss Mary Mc Knight remember me kindly to them. They are excellent persons, & she <sup>now</sup> is devoted to her husband, & he to her. I have no doubt she is in the deepest affliction. Calhoun has been at home since Tuesday evening. The boys begged for hot water, & he came home. He is well, & doing well, & always comes loaded with fish. I gave him Mattie's napage, but you know how lazy he is about writing.

Mia says her darling sister must wake haste home, & get some of the kisses she is "cooking for her". She will show you how she cooks them when you come. She & Calhoun are devoted to